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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Patent Application Of:  
David W. Pennington et al.

For: MECHANICAL BREAKUP UNIT FOR  
A BIOCHEMICALLY REACTIVE  
FLUID DELIVERY DEVICE

Serial No.: 09/669,353

Filed: September 26, 2000

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: 3762

Conf. No. 4575

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Office with  
sufficient postage as first class mail in an  
envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 29, 2002.

Robert J. Buccieri

**STATUS INQUIRY AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C., 20231

Dear Sir:

More than twenty months have passed since the filing of the above-referenced application on September 26, 2000. No communication has been received from the Patent and Trademark Office. Please advise the undersigned of the status of this application and when a communication may be expected.

Applicants additionally respectfully submit the following Preliminary Amendment, correcting the priority data as claimed by Applicants. The amendment is being submitted in the form required under 37 CFR § 1.121. Accordingly, attached is one sheet containing the marked-up specification, which shows the change.

**In the Specification:**

On Page 1, line 1, please replace the paragraph entitled: **Related Applications** with the following paragraph:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/386,198, filed August 31, 1999, which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No.

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